GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1621
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2001
TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES
BALIRAM

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether MTNL Delhi had got published 15 lakh main Directories and 10 lakh supplementary Directories in the year 1999 and 2000 respectively for distribution among the telephone subscribers;

(b) if so, the amount spent by the department to get both the Directories published;

(c) the number of the subscribers provided with both the Directories by January 31, 2001 and number of the Directories lying in stock at present and the total monetary value thereof;

(d) whether MTNL is likely to publish a fresh main directory for the year 2001;

(e) if so, the total number of such Directories to be published indicating volumes and cost thereof;

(f) whether 75 percent subscribers show indifference towards collecting the Directory because they keep the important numbers with them and as such they do not require the Directory; and

(g) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check the said extravagant expenditure?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Amount spent by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) to get these directories published is as under:

15 lakh, main directories Rs. 24,16,20,000.00
10 lakh, supplementary directories Rs. 14,18,09,997.00

(c) Total number of subscribers provided with directories up to 31.01.2001:

Main 1999 issue 11, 69, 000 (approximately)
Supplementary 2000 issue 1, 64, 000 (approximately)

Number of directory lying in stock at present:

Main 1999 issue 1, 93, 000 (approximately)
Supplementary 2000 issue 1, 41, 000 (approximately)

Total monetary value thereof:
Main 1999 issue Rs. 3, 10, 88,440 (approximately)
Supplementary 2000 issue Rs. 1,99,95,210 (approximately)

(d) & (e): As per the present policy, MTNL issues main directory every alternate year. The number of directories to be published for the year 2001 has been decided as 14 lakhs. Number of volumes and cost will be decided after tender is finalised.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise in view of (f) above.